

# Miles D. Williams

Department of Political Science, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

David Kinley Hall · 1470 W Gregory Drive · Urbana IL, 61801

✉ [milesdw2@illinois.edu](mailto:milesdw2@illinois.edu) ☎ 618-663-9499 🌐 [milesdwilliams15.github.io](https://milesdwilliams15.github.io)

## EMPLOYMENT

### DENISON UNIVERSITY

Visiting Assistant Professor 2022-present

### US OFFICE OF EVALUATION SCIENCES

Associate Fellow (methods specialist) 2020-present

## EDUCATION

*University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign*, Ph.D. Political Science 2022

Dissertation: "International Aid and Strategic Interdependence: How Common and Conflicting Foreign Policy Goals Shape the Supply of Foreign Aid"

Exams: International Relations, International Political Economy

Committee: Matthew S. Winters (chair), Xinyuan Dai, Robert Pahre, Robert Carroll

*Eastern Illinois University*, M.A. Political Science 2016

*Greenville University*, B.A. History & Political Science, Philosophy (*Summa Cum Laude*, with honors) 2015

## RESEARCH

### Journal Articles

Burge, Ryan and Miles D. Williams. 2019. "[Gender in the Pulpit: Differences in Speaking Style for Men and Women.](#)" *Journal of Communication and Religion* 42(1): 63-82.

Burge, Ryan and Miles D. Williams. 2019. "[The Use of Social Media by Religious Leaders: Evangelical Leaders and Twitter.](#)" *Journal of Religion, Media and Digital Culture* 8(3): 309-39.

### Working Papers and Works-in-Progress

"Foreign Aid, Migration, and Civil War." (Under Review).

"Aid for Alliances? Buying and Selling Alliance Commitments in the Political Economy of Aid." (Work-in-Progress)

"A Strategic Political Economy of Aid." (Working Paper)

"Competition and Buck-Passing in the Political Economy of Aid." (Working Paper)

"Who Leads? The Strategic Determinants of Lead Donorship." (Working Paper)

“Xinhua Coverage of Chinese Foreign Aid Allocations.” With Lucie Lu (Working Paper)

“Leveraging the Black Box: Regression Adjustment via Random Forests.” (Working Paper)

“How Local Discretion Addresses Competing Allocation Goals: The Case of Small Business Relief Funding.” With Rebecca Johnson, Heather Barry Kappes, Crystal C. Hall, Simone Zhang, and Elizabeth Bell. (Under Review)

“Does Performance Feedback Increase Flu-Vaccination Rates? A Cluster Randomized Trial.” With Sebastian Jilke, Pompa Debroy, Rebecca Johnson, Michael Wallace, and Vincent Marconi. (Working Paper)

“How Reducing Documentation Burdens Impacts Equity in Program Access: The Case of Small Business Covid-19 Relief Funding.” With Elizabeth Bell and Heather Kappes. (Under Review)

## Book Chapters

Williams, Miles D. and Matthew S. Winters. “[The World Bank](#).” Forthcoming in *Handbook of International Organizations: Theories, Concepts, and Empirical Insights*. Eds. Katja Freistein, Julia Leininger, and Silke Weinlich.

Ashley, Jeffrey and Miles Williams. 2018. “[Illinois 10th Congressional District: Re-match in Chicago Suburbs](#).” In *The Roads to Congress 2016*. Eds. S. Foreman and M. Godwin.

## Technical Guides

“[Reporting Statistical Results in Text and in Graphs](#).” With Ryan T. Moore and Russell Burnett.

## Blogging

I occasionally have contributed to [Religion in Public](#). Select posts include:

“[White, Conservative, Religious...and Aid Skeptical](#)” (January 21, 2021)

“[Do Women Preach Differently than Men?](#)” (June 26, 2019)

“[Welcom the Stranger? Evangelicals’ Views on Immigration Prior to Donald Trump](#)” (February 20, 2017)

“[Evangelical Leaders Are as Negative on Immigration and Islam as Donald Trump](#)” (February 13, 2017)

I also write about various statistical and R-related things on [my personal blog](#) hosted on my professional website.

## SOFTWARE

### Tools

R, RStudio, Latex, Stata, Python

### R Packages under Development

[RFA](#) - Implements [random forest adjustment](#) (RFA). RFA is a method for partialing out the influence of confounding covariates via random forests.

[seerrr](#) - Tools that simplify the process of doing Monte Carlo and computational power analyses.

[SARM](#) - For estimating a modified version of the Strategic Autoregressive Model developed by [Steinwand \(2011\)](#).  
[oesr](#) (available soon, with Ryan T. Moore) - For visualizing the results from randomized controlled trials using the Office of Evaluation Sciences' [recommended style guide](#).

## TEACHING

### DENISON UNIVERSITY

<i>War, Wealth, and World Politics</i> (Intro to IR)	Fall 2022
<i>Intro to Data Visualization</i>	Fall 2022

### UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

<i>Intro to International Relations</i> , Independent Instructor (online)	2021
<i>Intro to Political Science</i> , Teaching Assistant	2017
<i>UIUC Math Camp</i>	
Probability in R	2018-2020
Integrals	2020
Linear Regression	2021
GitHub and Version Control	2021

## PROFESSIONAL

### *University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign*, Research Assistant

Cara Wong	2020-present
Matthew S. Winters	2018-2020

### *Eastern Illinois University*

Research Assistant for Jeffrey Ashley	2016
Presidential Graduate Assistant	2015-2016

## AWARDS AND GRANTS

### *University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign*

William Bernhard Award for Best Dissertation Prospectus	2021
Rita and Leonard Ogren Award for Academic Excellence	2018

### *Eastern Illinois University*

Robert and Kathryn Augustine Distinguished Master's Thesis Award	2018
Williams Travel Grant	2016

## **SERVICE**

<i>International Relations Graduate Workshop, Coordinator</i>	2020-2021
<i>Graduate Methods Committee</i>	
Member	2019-2021
Chair	2020
<i>UIUC Political Science Graduate Student Association, Board Member</i>	2019-2020